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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Contact Branch
FROM : Acting chief, Seattle Office
SUBJECT: Dr. Nicholas N. Peppe

DATE: 29 July 1949
Memo no. 282

REFERENCE: Our Memo 277 dated 15 July 49; your memo 21 July 49.

1. As instructed by your memo 21 July 1949, we have advised George Tayler that CIA cannot contribute to Dr. Peppe's financial support at the University of Washington.

2. Tayler accepted this in friendly grace and said that subsequent to his initial contact with us on the subject, he had been able to raise the necessary funds to carry out the contract. Peppe has been notified and is, therefore, expected at the University here as per agreement.

3. Tayler assumes that, as a matter of routine, Washington ("probably CIA") has contacted Peppe and obtained information from him. This assumption was passed over without further comment and had no bearing on our discussion. (Present at the discussion: Tayler, [] myself.)

4. Under the circumstances, it would be difficult for Seattle CIA to use and develop Peppe as a source without Tayler's cooperation or knowledge. (Tayler has already offered to introduce us to Peppe.) Also, it is a question whether we can have ready access to Peppe without paying some sort of remuneration to the University. Tayler is cooperative -- and we regard him as trustworthy -- but he is pinched for funds to support the University's Far Eastern Institute, which he heads, and, naturally, is after all the money he can get. That is why he approached us in the first place regarding Peppe. We, of course, agree with your reasons why we cannot contribute and will do our best on that basis. Incidentally, it would have helped this office greatly had we known two months ago about Tayler's interest in Peppe and would appreciate your passing this kind of information to us as soon as possible in the future for the sake of closer cooperation between you and us.

5. As you know, the University of Washington is expecting another expert on Inner Asia to join its faculty shortly. This individual is a native Mongolian with a wide fund of current information about Inner and Outer Mongolia.

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Taylor plans to have this expert and Peppe collaborate on projects of mutual interest. Taylor has not, however, told Peppe about this proposed collaboration.

6. With the arrival of the above two people, the University of Washington will become an outstanding source of potential information about Inner Asia -- perhaps superior to any other such source in the U.S. today.

/cb

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